The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 1st February 1923, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR Avargal, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Superintendent, Government Lunatic Asylum.

737 *Q.*—Diwan Bahadur C. ARUNACHALA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(1) the terms, with subsequent modifications, if any, on which the present Superintendent of the Government Lunatic Asylum was entertained as such ; and

(2) the special qualifications entitling him to preference to other persons in the service who have had experience in the management of Government Lunatic Asylums?

A.—(1) The present Superintendent of the Madras Lunatic Asylum was entertained on the following terms :—

(*a*) *Pay* Rs. 700 plus teaching allowance Rs. 200 from 23rd January 1920 to 6th February 1921.
Rs. 1,450 (consolidated) from 7th February 1921.

(*b*) *Period of employment.*—Not originally fixed ; subsequently fixed at five years from 23rd January 1920. The engagement is however terminable by either party on three months' notice.

(2) His appointment was necessitated by the depletion of the strength of the Medical Department on account of the war, and the consequent difficulty experienced in obtaining the services of a competent specialist in mental diseases. The officer is specially qualified for the post of Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum, having had previous experience in England as Resident Medical Officer in a large asylum.

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" Sir, I find from the answer to the question that the pay of the Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum was Rs. 700 plus teaching allowance of Rs. 200 from 23rd January 1920 to 6th February 1921. Then all on a sudden his pay has been raised to Rs. 1,450 from 7th February 1921. May I know the reason for this sudden increase ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" That was the time when all salaries were revised and it was found necessary to get a well-qualified man though at a high salary."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" It is the same man that was given this sudden increase of salary."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" It is a matter of argument."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" Then, Sir, he was given a teaching allowance of Rs. 200. Was it for the months in which he had actual teaching work or was it for the whole year ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" He was paid the allowance whenever he was expected to teach."

Rao Sahib U. RAMA RAO :—" So I am to understand that he was paid only for the months in which he had teaching work and not at other times. Then, Sir, with reference to the answer to part 2 of the question, are there not men in the Provincial Medical department who may be capable of holding the appointment ? "

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" There is no expert so far as I know."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I should like to know whether there are no men with better qualifications in the Indian Medical Service."

The hon. the RAJA OF PANAGAL :—" Quite recently Major Wright has been appointed for the place."

Issue of brake certificates in Malabar and South Kanara.

738 *Q.*—Mr. A. D. M. BAVOTTI SAHIB : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to call for and lay on the table a list showing persons authorized by District Magistrates to issue brake certificates for motor-cars and buses plying for hire in the districts of Malabar and South Kanara and the amount earned by every such person by issue of brake certificates ?

A.—The available information is given in the following statement :—

Malabar district.

30 buses and 13 cars.	1. Mr. J. L. Brookes, Calicut ..	Not known as he has not inspected any bus.
	2. Mr. V. P. Dupen, Palghat ..	Rupees 35 to Rs. 50, inclusive of travelling allowance.
	3. Mr. K. N. Mistry, Cannanore.	Rupees 25 plus II class travelling allowance.
	4. The Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department.	Not known as he has not inspected any bus.
	5. Mr. K. J. Kamath	Rupees 50, inclusive of travelling allowance for the only inspection he made.

South Kanara district.

65 buses and 10 cars.	The District Superintendent of Police.	Rupees 25.
	Mr. H. T. E. Thorpe, Mechanical Engineer, Commonwealth Trust, Mangalore.	Rupees 25.

The RAJA OF RAMNAD :—" Sir, the question relates to the issue of brake certificates in Malabar and South Kanara and the amount earned by persons authorized to issue the certificates. In the answer, I find the District Superintendent of Police gets Rs. 25. I think it is a mistake if it represents the total amount earned by him."